BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2013-199-WS - ORDER NO. 2013-523

JULY 16, 2013

IN RE: Application of United Utility Companies, ORDER APPOINTING Inc. for Adjustment of Rates and Charges HEARING OFFICER

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the motion filed by United Utility Companies, Inc. ("UUC") for appointment of a hearing officer in Docket No. 2013-199-WS regarding UUC's Application for Adjustment of Rates and Charges. We hereby grant UUC's request. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-3-40 (Supp. 2012).

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the Commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years' practice experience.

We find that B. Randall Dong, Esquire, meets these qualifications, and we hereby appoint Mr. Dong as hearing officer in Docket No. 2013-199-WS. As hearing officer in

this proceeding, we direct Mr. Dong to rule on appropriate matters in the case and dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters for the proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. B. Randall Dong, Esquire, is hereby appointed as hearing officer in Docket No. 2013-199-WS for disposition of procedural and evidentiary matters.
- 2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:

Nikiya Hall, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)